

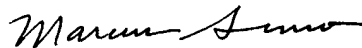
REMARKS

Claims 43, 78, 84, 86 and 87 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action dated September 22, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 43, 78, 84, 86 and 87 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-2 of U.S. Patent No. 6,607,975 B1 in view of Takanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,963,826). Claims 43, 78, 84, 86 and 87 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-6 of U.S. Patent No. 6,720,215 in view of Takanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,963,826). Claims 43, 78, 84, 86 and 87 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-2 of U.S. Patent No. 6,468,854 in view of Takanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,963,826). Claims 43, 78, 84, 86 and 87 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-11 of U.S. Patent No. 6,472,264 in view of Takanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,963,826). Claims 43, 78, 84, 86 and 87 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-3 of U.S. Patent No. 6,479,340 in view of Takanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,963,826). Claims 43, 78, 84, 86 and 87 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-3 of U.S. Patent No. 6,489,194 in view of Takanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,963,826). Claims 43, 78, 84, 86 and 87 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 4, 46, 77, 81-85 and 89-92 of copending Application No. 09/652,993 in view of Takanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,963,826). Claims 43, 78, 84, 86 and 87 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 54, 56, 76, 78-83, 85-86 and 89-99 of copending Application No. 09/652,580 in view of Takanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,963,826). Claims 43, 78, 84, 86 and 87 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 80-84 and 88-107 of copending Application No. 09/652,579 in view of Takanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,963,826).

In response to the Office Action, applicants are filing a terminal disclaimer to obviate the double patenting rejection. Claims 43, 78, 84, 86 and 87 should therefore now be in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore request favorable consideration and a timely Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures:

Postcard
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